Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Crop Report

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Crop Report for April 29, 2007

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop, hay and pasture land are generally adequate to surplus across the province, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's weekly crop report.

Areas of surplus topsoil moisture are mainly in the east central and northeastern regions, although there are some areas of surplus topsoil moisture in the west central and northwestern regions. Additionally, there are areas of short and very short topsoil moisture across the southern grainbelt.

While a few individual rural municipalities (RMs) report seeding of up to 20 per cent or more, producers in many areas have not yet begun seeding, due to wet and/or cold field conditions. To date, two per cent of the 2007 crop is planted. Peas, canola, and wheat are the most common crops reported as seeded so far.

More pre-seeding field work got underway this past week. Farmers are picking rocks, harrowing, fertilizing, applying chemicals, and cleaning grain. North eastern and east central farmers report infrastructure damage from flooding.

Seeding Progress in SK
per cent seeded

	All Crops
Apr 29/07	2
5-year Avg. (2002-06)	2
Apr 30/06	3
May 1/05	3
May 2/04	6
Apr 27/03	0

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1 Year Ago

Three per cent of the 2006 crop was seeded – 13 per cent planted in the southwest and 2 per cent in the southeast.

Topsoil moisture conditions were adequate across the majority of the grainbelt. Northeast and east central regions reported more than 50 per cent of the land suffering from surplus moisture.

Harvesting was reported in central and northern regions.

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South eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 1, 2, & 3 as-east)

The southeast saw a mix of sun and clouds, wind, and some showers during the past week. An average of 4 mm of precipitation was reported, ranging from an average low of 1 mm reported in Crop District (CD) 3ase, to an average high of 8 mm reported in CD 1b. Fields were blowing in the Pangman area with the strong winds.

Seeding has begun in many areas of the southeast. A total of 3 per cent of the 2007 crop is in. Crops being seeded include peas, wheat, barley, and canola.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land are generally rated as adequate. In CDs 1a, 2a, and 3ase, reporters rate over 20 per cent of the land in a short or very short topsoil moisture situation. On hay and pasture land, the majority of reporters say they have adequate moisture. In CDs 1a, 2a, and 3ase, reporters rate over 40 per cent of the land in a short or very short topsoil moisture situation. These areas could use a good rain soon.

Farmers are applying chemical and fertilizer, picking rocks, harrowing straw, fixing fences, cleaning seed, and burning straw. There are a significant number of winter annual weeds showing in some fields. A few field fires were reported from the Grenfell area and there were some grass fires in the Montmartre area. Some shortages of fertilizer and chemicals were reported.

Most livestock are still being fed as grass growth in the pastures is not robust enough to support grazing. In the Minton area, many cattlemen are still hauling water for their stock as well.

South western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 3as-west, 3an, 3b, & 4)

Many areas in the southwest were windy last week, along with cool night temperatures that warmed up during the day. An average of 6 mm of precipitation was reported, ranging from an average low of 1 mm reported in CD 4, to an average high of 13 mm reported in CD 3an. The wind caused blowing dirt in the Limerick and Ponteix areas.

Spring seeding has begun in a number of areas in the southwest with a total of 5 per cent seeded in the region. Up to 60 per cent has been seeded in the Maple Creek area. Crops going in include peas, canola, mustard, and spring wheat. Some early-seeded peas are emerging in the Mossbank area.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land are generally rated as adequate. In CDs 3asw and 4b, reporters rate at least 20 per cent of the land in a short or very short topsoil moisture situation. On hay and pasture land, the majority of reporters say they have adequate moisture. In CDs 3asw and 3bs, reporters rate over 30 per cent of the land in a short or very short topsoil moisture situation. These areas could use a good rain soon.

Farmers are applying chemical – both spray and granular, picking rocks, and doing tillage. The gophers are getting out of hand in the Bengough area. Gopher and badger holes were an issue in the Mankota and Ponteix areas. Wire worms were reported in fall triticale in the Consul area. There were shortages of chemicals and fertilizer reported. Fall rye and winter wheat appear to have good survival rates.

Livestock producers are branding calves, fixing fence, and moving some cattle to pastures.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

This past week saw some drying conditions in the east central region. An average of 4 mm of precipitation was recorded, ranging from an average low of 1 mm reported in CD 5a to an average high of 5 mm reported in CD 6a.

One-half of one per cent of seeding is done in the east central region. Seeding is taking place in several areas in CDs 5a and 6a. Crops being planted include peas and lentils. Several areas in CD 5b expect it will be one to two weeks before seeding can begin, provided the weather cooperates.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop, hay and pasture land are reported as surplus to adequate.

CD 5b reports the highest percentage of surplus moisture.

Farmers are fertilizing winter wheat, applying fertilizer and chemical, harrowing, picking rocks, and burning straw. Wildlife damage to unharvested 2006 crops is high and wildlife are damaging emerging winter wheat fields in the Goodeve area. In the Foam Lake area, farmers are trying to move some excess water off the fields. In the Kelvington area, farmers are concerned as they continue to receive rain on already very wet land. There are some fertilizer, chemical, and pea seed shortages.

Livestock are still being fed hay as pastures are not ready to be grazed.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

Many areas in the west central region saw drying conditions this past week, though some had cooler weather. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported.

Less than one-half of one per cent of the 2007 crop is in the ground. Some RMs report up to 2 per cent seeded. Crops planted include peas, oats, barley, and forages. Some regions expect a decrease in seeded area because of overly wet field conditions – how much of a decrease will depend on the weather.

Topsoil moisture conditions are generally adequate on crop, hay and pasture land in west central regions. Crop District 6b reports over 40 per cent of the crop land in a surplus situation.

Farmers are spraying, harrowing, applying granular herbicide, picking rocks, fertilizing, and repairing machinery. Some livestock are being moved out to interim and summer pastures. Winter annual weeds are growing vigorously.There are some shortages of fertilizer and glyphosphate. The gophers are busy in the Unity area.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9a-east)

This past week brought cool then warm weather to much of the northeast. An average of 2 mm of precipitation was reported, ranging from no precipitation reported in CD 9ae, to an average high of 3 mm in CD 8b.

There was no seeding activity reported. One to two weeks of drying weather will be needed for seeding to get underway.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop, hay and pasture land are generally rated as surplus.

Roads are soft, frost boils are popping up, culverts have been washed out, road bans are on (some as low as 6,400 lbs.), and lakes are overflowing. There are concerns about being able to move supplies and equipment around the region.

Some farmers have started to pick rocks on the parts of the fields that they can get to. There are shortages of some varieties of canola as well as fertilizer.

North western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 9a-west & 9b)

Most of the past week was warm with wind in the northwest. There were some scattered showers making for an average of 1 mm of precipitation for the region. Crop District 9aw reported an average of 2 mm of precipitation. In some areas, the winds have dried out the topsoil too quickly.

Less than 1 per cent of the 2007 crophas been planted in the northwest. Seeding activity was reported in the North Battleford, Turtleford, and Meota areas.Wheat and field peas have been planted.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop, hay and pasture land are generally adequate. In CD 9aw, about one-third of the crop land is in a surplus topsoil moisture situation. Those areas will need up to two weeks for the ground to dry up, provided they do not receive more moisture.

Farmers are picking rocks, fencing, harrowing, fertilizing, tilling, and repairing machinery. Cattle are being moved from their wintering areas. Shortages of specific canola varieties and seed peas were reported.

Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending April 28, 2007

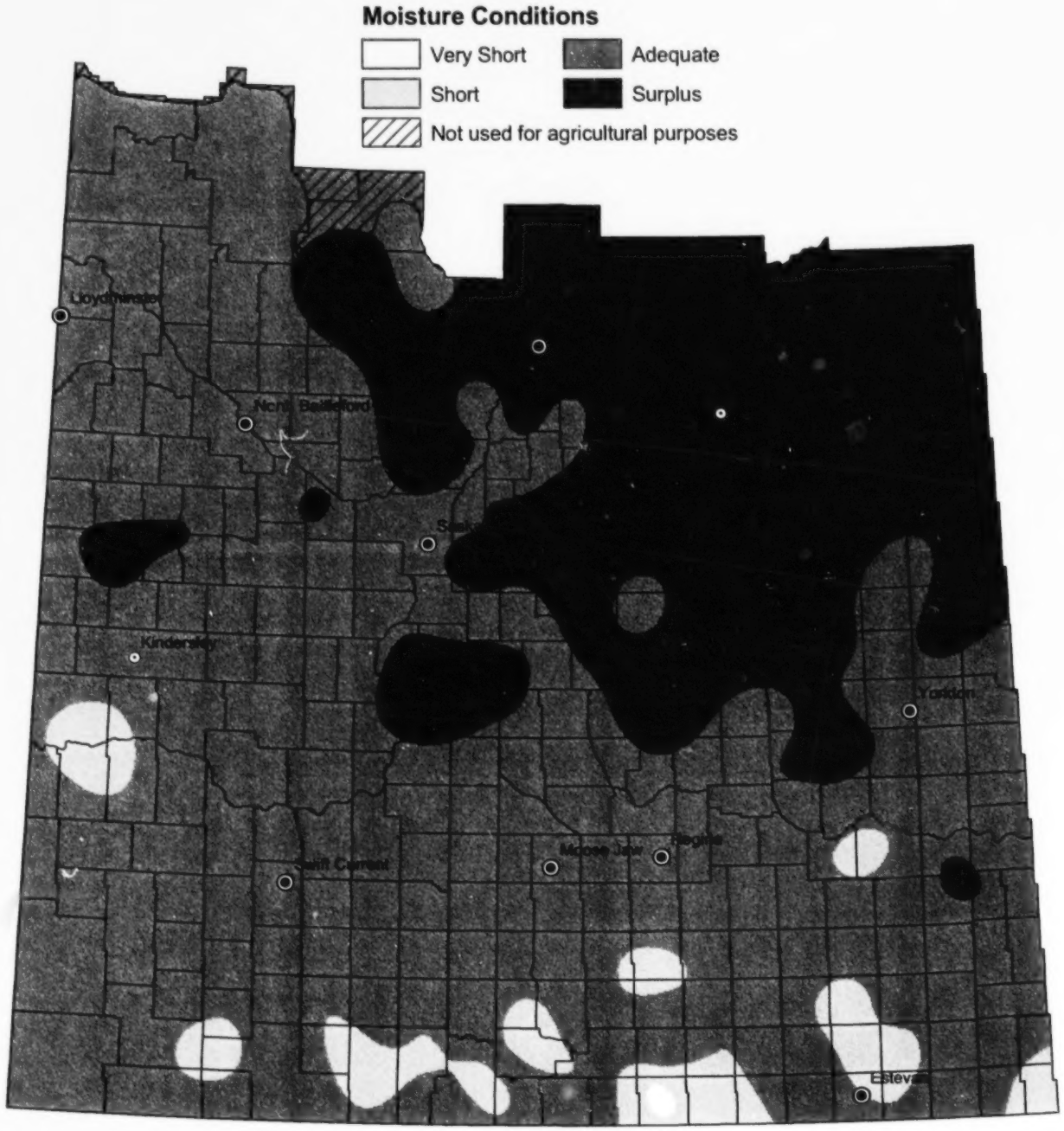
Crop Dist.	No.	Municipality Name	Past Week	Since April 1
1A	1	Argyle	NIL	17
	2	Mount Pleasant	NIL	7
	3	Enniskillen	1	9
	33 A	Moose Creek	NIL	9
	33 B	Moose Creek	2	5
	34	Browning	1	6
	61	Antler	NIL	NIL*
	63 A	Moose Mountain	4	4*
	64	Brock	2	23
	65	Tecumseh	6	10
1B	91	Maryfield	2	2*
	92 B	Walpole	4	10
	93	Wawken	8	8
	94	Hazelwood	7	10
	95	Golden West	9	16
	123	Silverwood	10	10
	124	Kingsley	16	17
	125	Chester	10	17
	151 A	Rocanville	6	6
	151 B	Rocanville	2	2*
	153	Willowdale	10	11
	154	Elcapo	13	13
	155	Wolseley	3	9
2A	36	Cymri	2	21
	67	Weyburn	TR	9
	68	Brokenshell	TR	11
	69	Norton	3	22
	96	Fillmore	3	11
	97	Wellington	1	8
	99	Caledonia	4	28
2B	126	Montmartre	5	15
	127	Francis	12	22
	129	Bratt's Lake	5	13
	131	Baildon	24	38
	156 A	Indian Head	5	14
	156 B	Indian Head	1	9
	157	South Quappelle	NIL	5
	160	Pense	10	10
	161	Moose Jaw	4	13
	191	Marquis	2	22
3ASE	9	Surprise Valley	1	18
	38 B	Laurier	1	21
	39 A	The Gap	1	14
	39 B	The Gap	NIL	29
3ASW	10	Happy Valley	3	20
	12	Poplar Valley	3	5
	40	Bengough	4	21
	42	Willow Bunch	7	21
	43 A	Old Post	8	29
	43 B	Old Post	6	13
	44	Waverley	3	16
	70	Key West	6	9
	71 A	Excel	8	21
	71 B	Excel	5	13
	73 A	Stonehenge	9	9
	73 B	Stonehenge	11	26
3AN	101 B	Terrell	14	28
	102	Lake Johnston	14	25
	103	Sutton	16	16
	132	Hillsborough	15	25
	134	Shamrock	19	21
	193	Eyebrow	7	10
	194	Enfield	5	5
3BS	17 A	Val Marie	6	44
	17 B	Val Marie	6	61
	45	Mankota	4	20
	46	Glen Mcpherson	7	43
	75 A	Pinto Creek	5	18
	75 B	Pinto Creek	11	17
	76 A	Auvergne	3	14
	76 B	Auvergne	3	30
	77	Wise Creek	7	60
	78 A	Grassy Creek	2	58
	78 B	Grassy Creek	2	64
	78 C	Grassy Creek	NIL	40
	105	Glenbain	10	18
	106	Whiska Creek	11	38
	107	Lac Pelletier	7	19
	108	Bone Creek	5	43
3BN	136	Coulee	9	24
	138	Webb	5	26
	166	Excelsior	10	14
	167	Sask. Landing	8	17
	225	Canaan	4	17
	226	Victory	5	13
	228 A	Lacadena	4	18
	228 B	Lacadena	8	10
	257	Monet	3	8
4A	19	Frontier	2	64
	49 A	White Valley	1	66
	49 B	White Valley	NIL	NIL*
	51	Reno	4	70
	79	Arlington	3	46
	109	Carmichael	NIL	NIL*
	110	Piapot	NIL	37
	111 A	Maple Creek	TR	29
4B	139	Gull Lake	1	25
	141	Big Stick	1	36
	142	Enterprise	TR	47
	231	Happyland	TR	7
	232	Deer Forks	5	13
5A	183	Fertile Belt	TR	TR*
	185	Mcleod	4	8
	186	Abernethy	1	6
	211	Churchbridge	NIL	TR
	213	Saltcoats	1	7
	216 A	Tullymet	TR	4
	216 B	Tullymet	2	12
	241	Calder	NIL	NIL
	243	Wallace	NIL	4
	245 B	Garry	3	8
	246	Ituna Bon Accord	2	4
	247	Kellross	5	12
5B	271	Cote	4	7
	273	Sliding Hills	2	4
	275 A	Insinger	2	13
	275 B	Insinger	NIL	1
	276	Foam Lake	10	14
	277	Emerald	12	14
	304	Buchanan	4	6
	307	Elfros	11	11*
	308	Big Quill	4	8
	333	Clayton	NIL	NIL*
	335	Hazel Dell	3	9
	336	Sasman	8	14
	337	Lakeview	5	10
	338	Lakeside	NIL	4
	366 B	Kelvington	2	7
6A	189	Lumsden	7	13
	190 B	Dufferin	1	1
	190 C	Dufferin	7	13
	219 B	Longlaketon	1	4
	219 C	Longlaketon	6	8
	220	Mckillop	5	7
	221	Sarnia	11	23
	222	Craik	8	28
	251	Big Arm	13	18
	252	Arm River	10	20
	280	Wreford	6	11
	282	Mccraney	1	2
	309	Prairie Rose	1	9
	312	Morris	NIL	NIL
	313	Lost River	NIL	NIL
	339 B	Leroy	0	8
	340 A	Wolverine	4	12
	341	Viscount	5	5
	343	Blucher	1	3
6B	254	Loreburn	2	4
	283	Rosedale	NIL	6
	284	Rudy	2	11
	285	Fertile Valley	NIL	16
	286	Milden	4	14
	314	Dundurn	NIL	4
	344	Corman Park	NIL	NIL
	345	Vanscoy	NIL	1
	346	Perdue	NIL	8
	376 A	Eagle Creek	1	3
	376 B	Eagle Creek	NIL	TR
	403	Rosthern	1	7
	404	Laird	NIL	2
7A	259	Snipe Lake	7	14
	287	St. Andrews	NIL	16
	288	Pleasant Valley	1	23
	292	Milton	4	17
	317 A	Marriott	NIL	NIL*
	317 B	Marriott	NIL	8
	318 A	Mountain View	NIL	5
	318 B	Mountain View	NIL	7
7B	347 A	Biggar	NIL	2
	350 A	Mariposa	NIL	NIL*
	350 B	Mariposa	NIL	5
	351	Progress	NIL	9
	352	Heart's Hill	NIL	5
	377	Glenside	NIL	3
	378 A	Rosemount	NIL	7
	378 B	Rosemount	1	3
	379	Reford	NIL	3
	380	Tramping Lake	NIL	NIL
	381	Grass Lake	NIL	3
	382	Eye Hill	NIL	13
	409	Buffalo	NIL	2
	410	Round Valley	NIL	TR
8A	395	Porcupine	NIL	8
	397	Barrier Valley	1	11
	398	Pleasantdale	NIL	18
	428	Star City	3	10
	456	Arborfield	TR	8
	457	Connaught	NIL	NIL*
	458	Willow Creek	NIL	4
	486	Moose Range	TR	1
	487	Nipawin	2	7
8B	369	St. Peter	5	5*
	370	Humboldt	3	3
	371	Bayne	NIL	8
	372	Grant	TR	5
	373	Aberdeen	NIL	3
	399	Lake Lenore	TR	6
	400	Three Lakes	NIL	NIL
	402	Fish Creek	NIL	6
	429 B	Flett's Springs	4	13
	430 A	Invergordon	2	8
	430 B	Invergordon	12	12
	431	St. Louis	NIL	1
	459	Kinistino	8	15
9AE	488	Torch River	NIL	5
	520	Paddockwood	NIL	4
9AW	406	Mayfield	4	4
	435	Redberry	NIL	4
	436	Douglas	NIL	NIL*
	463	Duck Lake	5	7
	464	Leask	11	13
	466	Meeting Lake	NIL	2
	467	Round Hill	NIL	10
	493	Shellbrook	NIL	NIL*
	494	Canwood	2	7
	496	Spiritwood	2	3
	497	Medstead	TR	TR
9B	438	Battle River	TR	TR
	440	Hillsdale	NIL	5
	442	Manitou Lake	NIL	NIL*
	468	Meota	TR	1
	498 A	Parkdale	NIL	NIL
	498 B	Parkdale	NIL	4
	499	Mervin	NIL	4
	501 A	Frenchman Butte	1	10
	501 B	Frenchman Butte	NIL	4
	501 C	Frenchman Butte	3	3*
	502	Britannia	3	12
	561	Loon Lake	NIL	5
	588 A	Meadow Lake	NIL	NIL
	588 B	Meadow Lake	NIL	8
	588 C	Meadow Lake	NIL	3

These precipitation amounts represent point locations within each municipality and do not necessarily reflect the whole R.M.

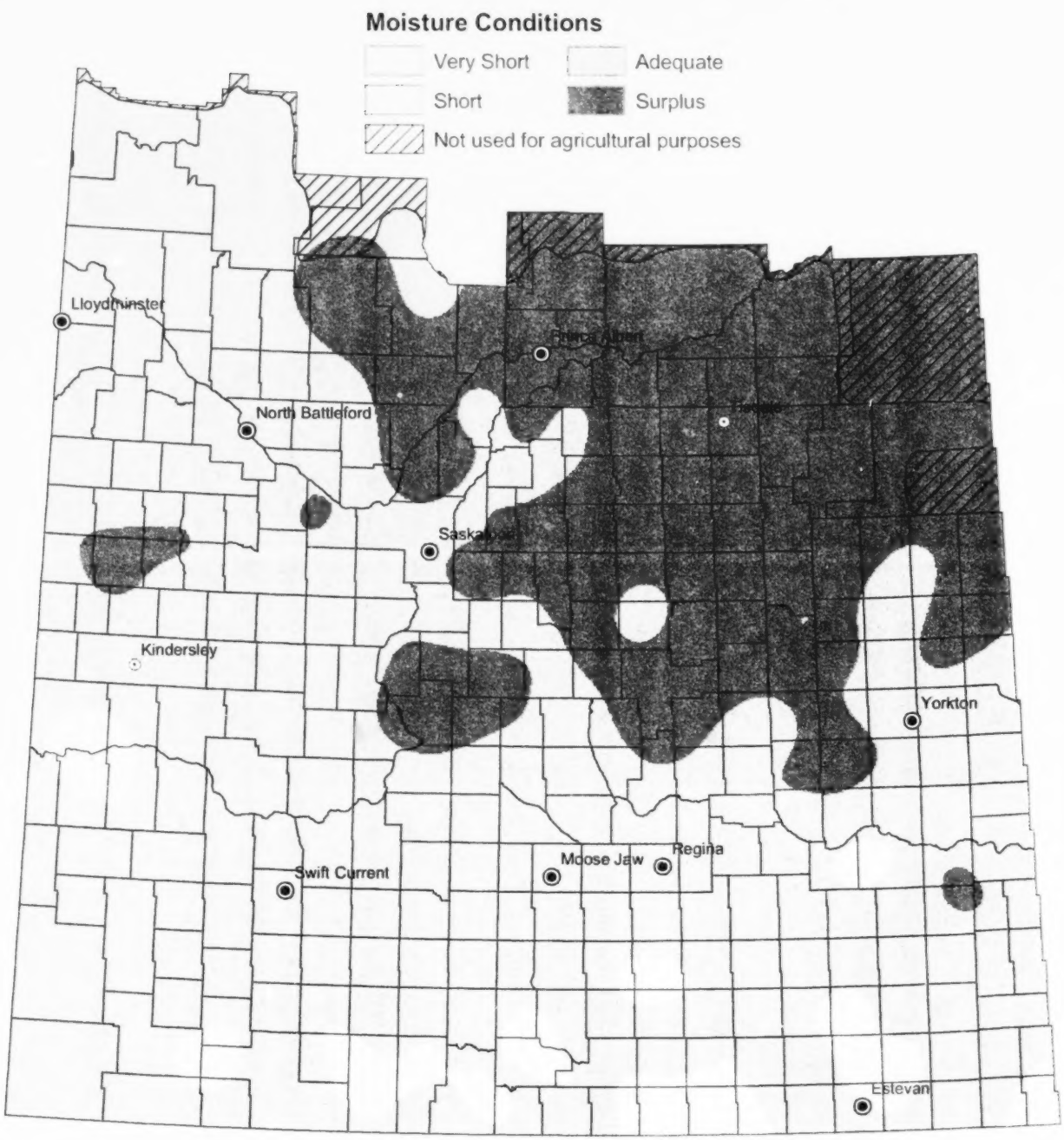
* incomplete

Municipality No: A, B, C, and D - more than one reporter

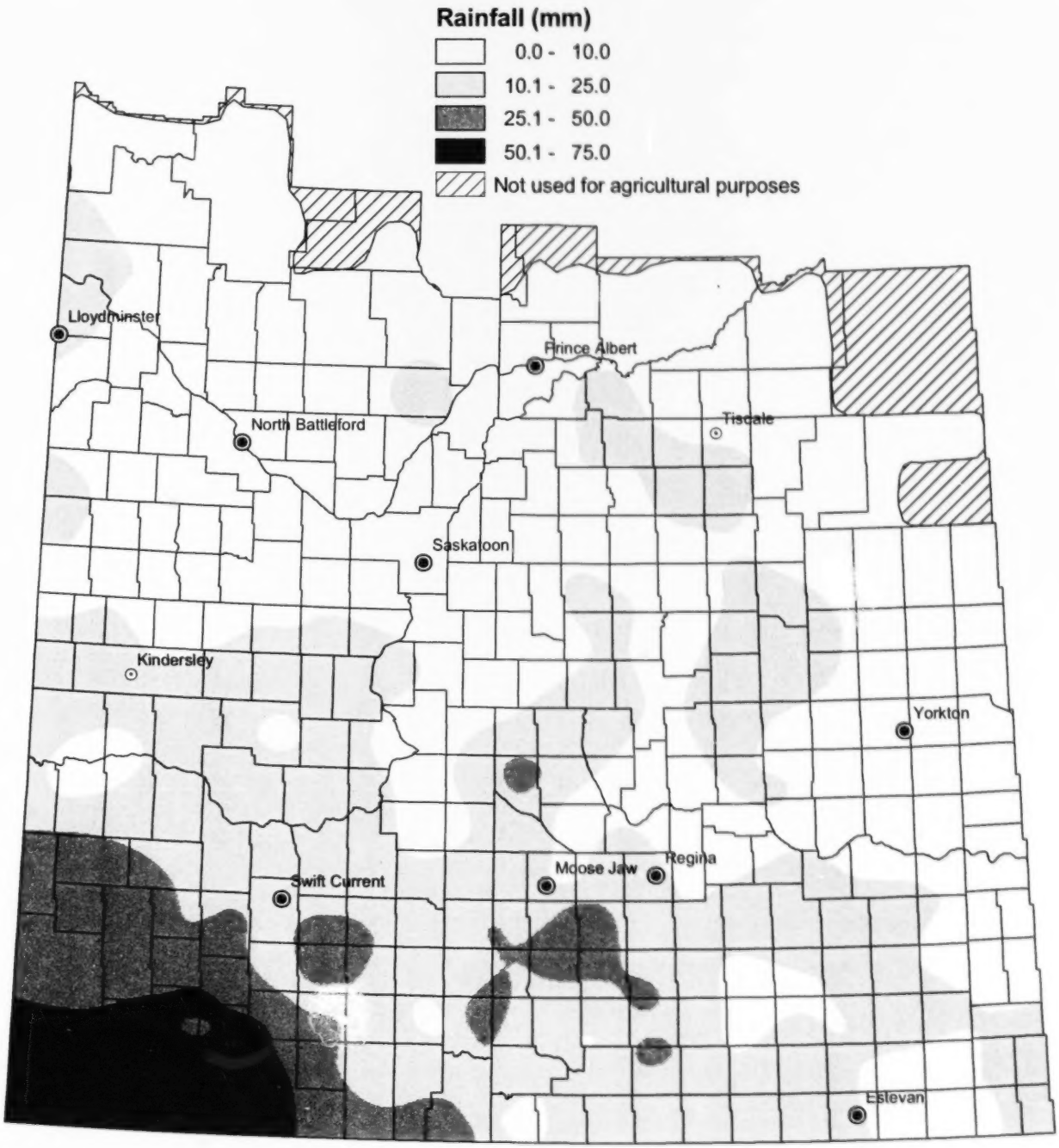
Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions
April 29, 2007



Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions
April 29, 2007



Cumulative Rainfall
From: April 1, 2007
To: April 28, 2007



Crop Districts
and
Rural Municipalities